Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 AMMAN 04096 211312Z ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN TO SECSTATE IMMEDIATE 2452 INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

CONFIDENTIAL AMMAN 4096

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MASS, JO, SA, US SUBJECT: JORDAN FMS

- 1. WHEN I SAW KING JULY 20, IN CONTEXT OUR CONVERSATION ABOUT SAUDI ATTITUDES TOWARD JORDANIAN ASSISTANCE, I DESCRIBED FOR HIM PROBLEM WE WERE HAVING OVER FY 1975 AND FY 1976 FMS CREDIT AND SAUDI PAYMENTS.
- 2. WHEN HE HEARD ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF JORDAN PAYING THE FIRST INSTALLMENT, HE BRIDLED AND SAID THAT HE DID NOT AGREE WITH THIS METHOD OF PROCEEDING. I SAID THAT THIS WAS OUR EMBASSY VIEW AT PRESENT, HE ASKED WHO WAS DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM IN ARMY HEADQUARTERS AND I TOLD HIM.
- 3. I ALSO POINTED OUT THAT WHILE WE BOTH AGREED ON POLICY GROUNDS THIS WAS NOT A GOOD COURSE OF ACTION, AT SAME TIME WE WERE EXPLORING WITH WASHINGTON THE RELEASE OF FUNDS. IF IT TURNED OUT THAT SUCH WAS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED AND THAT JORDAN'S PROGRAMS WOULD EXPERIENCE SEVERE PRICE INCREASES AS A RESULT OF CONTINUED DELAY, I WOULD BE BACK TO HIM WITH A RECOMMENDATION. HE ACCEPTED THE LATTER POINT WITHOUT COMMENT.
- 4. COMMENT: ON PAST FORM, KING WILL GET TO JAF ON THIS ISSUE. CONFIDENTIAL

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HE WAS QUITE DEFINITE ON THIS POINT. I HAVE TRIED TO LEAVE A LITTLE BREATHING ROOM IF WE NEED IT.

HE WILL UNDERSTAND THE NECESSITY OF DOING SOMETHING
IF JORDAN PROGRAM STANDS TO LOSE A GOOD BIT THROUGH PRICE INCREASES
AND HE WILL WISH TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY IN ADVANCE OF THAT
POINT TO REVIEW PRESENT POSTURE.
PICKERING

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Message Attributes

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